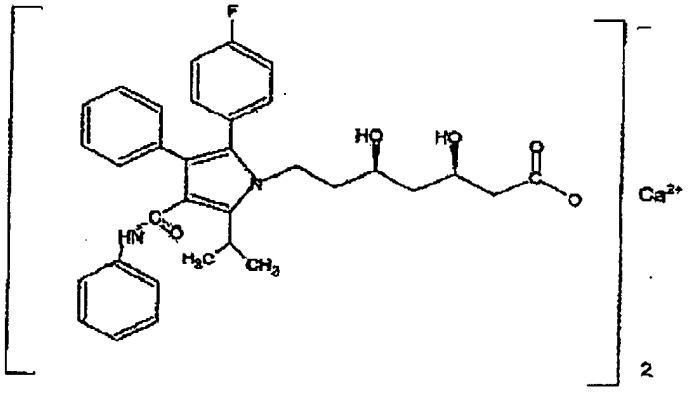
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A crystalline Form VI atorvastatin calcium of formula 1



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and characterized by the X-ray powder diffraction pattern measured using a Shimadzu XRD-6000 with copper K radiation of λ1.5406°A and with a relative intensity of > 15% having 2θ values 3.7365, 7.7200, 8.6985, 10.2185, 12.5933, 17.9103, 18.3600, 19.4031, 20.2800, 20.8200, 22.5122 and 25.5848.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) A crystalline Form VI atorvastatin calcium of claim 1 characterized by the solid state C^{13} nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum (NMR) having chemical shifts in parts per million (PPM) at 21.898, 24.294, 27.767, 29.368, 33.939, 38.275, 42.836, 45.980, 68.932, 71.266, 73.617, 119.357, 122.987, 131.214, 137.515, 162.696, 169.066, 179.540, 186.890 and 190.640.

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4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) A crystalline Form VI atorvastatin calcium of claim 1 has melting point in the range of 177 to 182°C.

8. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of crystalline Form VI atorvastatin calcium of claim 1, chemically known as [R-(R*,R*)]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-beta,delta-dihydroxy-5-(1-methylethyl)-phenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-1H-pyrrole-1-heptanoic acid calcium salt (2:1) which comprises:

a) dissolving calcium salt of any form of atorvastatin, a starting compound, in an ~~organic solvent such as~~ aliphatic ketone ~~preferably~~ at a temperature in the range of ambient to reflux temperature to get clear solution of atorvastatin salt,

b) optionally removing impurities by filtration,

c) adding ~~demeterialized~~ demineralized water maintaining the same temperature, and

d) isolating crystallized polymorphic Form VI of atorvastatin calcium ~~and drying to get required water of crystallization~~.

9. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of new polymorphic crystalline Form VI of atorvastatin calcium, chemically known as [R-(R*,R*)]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-beta,delta-dihydroxy-5-(1-methylethyl)-phenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-1H-pyrrole-1-heptanoic acid calcium salt (2:1) which comprises:

a) dissolving lactone form of atorvastatin, a starting compound, in an ~~organic solvent preferably~~ aliphatic ketone at a temperature in the range of ambient to reflux temperature to get a clear solution,

b) adding an aqueous solution of alkaline earth metal hydroxide or acetate and demineralised water under stirring maintaining the same temperature, and

c) isolating crystallized polymorphic Form VI of atorvastatin calcium ~~and drying to get required water of crystallization~~.

10. (Currently amended) A process ~~of claims 8 & 9~~ as in claim 8 or 9 wherein the atorvastatin calcium used is amorphous or crystalline form of atorvastatin calcium or a mixture thereof.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A process [[of]] as in claim 8 or 9 wherein [[an]] the aliphatic ketone ~~comprising~~ is acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, diethyl ketone, or methyl propyl ketone.

14. (Currently amended) A process as in claim 8 or 9 wherein the organic solvent used is 100 times by volume with respect to the amount of the starting compound.

15. (Currently amended) A process as in claim 8 or 9 wherein the organic solvent used is 15 times by volume with respect to the amount of the starting compound.

16. (Currently amended) A process as in claim 8 or 9 wherein the organic solvent used is 10 times by volume with respect to the amount of the starting compound.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) A process of claim 9 wherein the alkaline earth metal used is calcium hydroxide.

19. (Previously presented) A process of claim 9 wherein the molar ratio of alkaline earth metal hydroxide with respect to the starting compound is 1: 1 ratio.

20. (Currently amended) A process as in claim 8 or 9 wherein ~~the cooling is effected~~ said solution is cooled at the cooling rate of 2 to 3°C per minute to a temperature in the range of -20°C to 20°C (room temperature) ~~to effect~~ for crystallization.

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21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A process as in claim 8 or 9 ~~wherein the~~ further comprising drying ~~is effected by~~ in a vacuum tray drier[[,]] or rotacon vacuum drier, and at a temperature above 50 and below 80^0C.

23. (Currently amended) A process as in 8 or 9 ~~wherein the~~ further comprising drying ~~is effected by~~ in a vacuum tray drier[[,]] or rotacon vacuum drier, at 55^0C for 12 to 30 hours.

24. (Currently amended) A process as in 8 or 9 wherein ~~the cooling is effected~~ said solution is cooled at the rate of 2 to 3°C per minute to a temperature in the range of 15 to 20°C ~~to effect~~ for crystallization.

25. (Previously presented) A process of claim 9 wherein the molar ratio of alkaline earth metal hydroxide or acetate with respect to starting compound is 50:1.

26. (Previously presented) A process of claim 9 wherein the molar ratio of alkaline earth metal hydroxide or acetate with respect to starting compound is 10:1.

27. (New) A process of claim 9 wherein said acetate is calcium acetate.

28. (New) A process of claim 8 wherein the aliphatic ketone is acetone.

29. (New) A process of claim 9 wherein the aliphatic ketone is acetone.